

Message Text

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71

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAL-01 SAJ-01 /144 W

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R 171635Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6789

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1500

USEC BRUSSELS 0410

AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1520

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, IC, EEC, UK

SUBJECT: SCIENTISTS URGE LOWERED COD QUOTAS FOR NEXT TWO YEARS

1. ICELAND'S MARINE RESEARCH INSTITUTE HAS ISSUED NEW RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALLOWABLE COD CATCH IN SURROUNDING WATERS. NOTING THAT ITS EARLIER RECOMMENDED QUOTA FOR 1976 WILL BE CONSIDERABLY EXCEEDED, INSTITUTE URGES CUTBACKS IN COD CATCH FOR 1977 AND 1978.

2. LATEST RECOMMENDATIONS, MADE PUBLIC NOVEMBER 16, REPRESENT FIRST COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL FROM MARINE
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INSTITUTE SINCE LAST YEAR'S PESSIMISTIC "BLACK REPORT"
(REYKJAVIK 1206, OCT 22, 1975), WHICH SET TONE FOR

GOI'S HARD BARGAINING IN SUBSEQUENT BILATERAL FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. NEW REPORT POINTS OUT THAT COD CATCH IN ICELANDIC WATERS FOR 1976 IS EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT 340 THOUSAND TONS, 60 THOUSAND MORE THAN UPPER LIMIT OF INSTITUTE'S SUGGESTED TOTAL FOR PERIOD. TO COMPENSATE FOR THIS EXCESS, REPORT URGED MAXIMUM COD CATCH OF 275 THOUSAND TONS IN BOTH 1977 AND 1978. THIS FIGURE WOULD BE 5,000 TONS LESS THAN WHAT INSTITUTE HAD EARLIER HOPED COULD BE TAKEN NEXT YEAR AND WOULD WIPE OUT WHAT HAD BEEN PROJECTED AS "CONSIDERABLE INCREASE" IN COD CATCH FOR 1978.

3. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT ICELANDERS WILL DRAW HEAVILY ON THESE SOBERING STATISTICS DURING THEIR FISHERIES TALKS WITH EEC.

4. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, INDEPENDENCE PARTY DAILY MORGUNBLADID THIS MORNING FEATURED INTERVIEW BY PAPER'S CORRESPONDENT IN UK WITH HULL MP JAMES JOHNSON, WHO PREDICTED THAT HMG WOULD SOON SEEK BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH TOI IN VIEW OF EEC'S "INABILITY" THUS FAR TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH ICELAND GOVERNING FUTURE BRITISH FISHING HERE. JOHNSON IS CITED AS SAYING THAT HE HOPES IT IS NOT OUT OF QUESTION THAT TWO NATIONS COULD SETTLE ON TERMS THAT WOULD ALLOW 30 OR SO BRITISH TRAWLERS TO REMAIN IN ICELANDIC WATERS AFTER CURRENT PACT EXPIRES. BLAKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CODFISH, FISHING REGULATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976REYKJA01520
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760429-0846
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761138/aaaabgrj.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>; APPROVED <30 NOV 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCIENTISTS URGE LOWERED COD QUOTAS FOR NEXT TWO YEARS
TAGS: EFIS, IC, UK, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006